

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Li et al.) Group Art Unit: 1633
) (prior application)
Serial No.: Unassigned)
 (Parent: 09/493,301)) Examiner: J. Kerr
) (prior application)
Filed: Herewith)
 (Parent: January 28, 2000))

For: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR *IN VIVO* AND *IN VITRO*
ATTENUATION OF GENE EXPRESSION USING DOUBLE STRANDED
RNA

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
ATTN: BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The present application is a continuation patent application of Serial No. 09/493,301 filed on January 28, 2000, which claims priority to U.S. Serial No. 60/117,635 filed on January 28, 1999, and U.S. Serial No. 60/175,440 filed on January 11, 2000.

Prior to taking up the above-identified application for examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, this paragraph is also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.

This is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/493,301 filed January 28, 2000, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial Nos. 60/117,635, filed January 28, 1999, and 60/175,440, filed January 11, 2000, all of which are incorporated by reference.

Preliminary Amendment

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Applicant(s): Li et al.

Serial No. Unknown (Parent Serial No. 09/493,301)

Filed: Herewith (Parent: January 28, 2000)

For: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR *IN VIVO* AND *IN VITRO* ATTENUATION OF GENE EXPRESSION USING DOUBLE STRANDED RNA

Remarks

The amendment to the specification is made to claim the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/175,440 filed on January 11, 2000.

Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives at the below-listed telephone number, if there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or if prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted for

Li et al.

By

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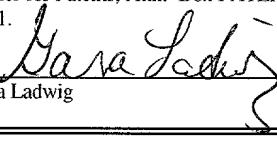
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Date

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Name: Gara Ladwig

**APPENDIX A - SPECIFICATION/CLAIM AMENDMENTS
INCLUDING NOTATIONS TO INDICATE CHANGES MADE**

**Serial No.: Unknown
Docket No.: 275.0003 0102**

Amendments to the following are indicated by underlining what has been added and bracketeting what has been deleted. Additionally, all amendments have been shaded.

In the Specification

The paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8, has been amended as follows:

This is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/493,301 filed January 28,
2000, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial Nos. 60/117,635, filed
January 28, 1999, and 60/175,440, filed January 11, 2000, all of which are incorporated by
reference [application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/117,635,
filed January 28, 1999].